BUSSHI NO BUSSHIN
ぶっしのぶっしん
—鎌倉半分仏師対—
THE KAMA-KURA ERA
HIRAIZUMI...
THIS IS THE FORMER GOLDEN CAPITAL,
THIS IS...
SFX: RUSTLE
MOVE TOWARD MOUNT KINKEI!
WE CANNOT LET IT REACH SOU'S POSITION!
BUA

ONCE UPON A TIME,
THERE WAS ONE WHO FOUGHT
ALONGSIDE BUDDHA...
ふつふつ
鎌倉半分仏師録
Busshi no Busshin
THE SCULPTOR'S BUDDHAKAYA
(RECORD OF THE KAMAKURA ERA HALF-SCULPTOR)
1. HALF OF ME AND YOU
鎌谷悠希
KAMATANI YUUKI
「隠の王」の鎌谷悠希が描く鎌倉仏師×ファンタジー絵巻
巨弾新連載、開帳！

!!
FU
SFX RUSTLE
DON'T HESITATE, KEEP FIRING!
NEITHER OUR BOWS NOR OUR SWORDS HAVE ANY EFFECT!
SOU!
KAN KAN
KAN
TON

KA KAN
KA KA
KA KAN
IS IT READY YET, SOUP!
A LITTLE MORE...
KAN
JUST A LITTLE MORE!

TN: "SCULPTOR OF BUDDHIST IMAGES" SHORTENED TO "SCULPTOR" THROUGHOUT THIS SCANLATION
A SCULPTOR?
AND THEN THERE'S THAT BOY...
THESE PEOPLE ARE THIS STATE'S PRIESTS AND MUSICIANS...
LORD YORITOMO! SHOULD WE WITHDRAW HERE?
THIS CAPITAL IS ALREADY UNMANAGE-ABLE!
ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE ONE CONTROLLING THIS LAND IS THAT MONSTER...?
WHO ARE YOU!

THE GOD OF HIRAIZUMI BECAME ANGRY AND APPEARED!
HEY, YOU
KEEP QUIET!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU, GENJI OF THE MINAMOTO CLAN, INVADED!
BECAUSE YOU ATTACKED OUR LORD FUJIWARA,
MIZUCHI...
ROOOAAAR
MIZUCHI HAS COME TO TAKE MUTSU PROVINCE FROM US HUMANS!

FATHER!
SFX: ROAR
FATHER!

GU!!
AAH!
SFX: KO
AH. AH!
EVERY-ONE...
DO NOT AVERT YOUR EYES UNTIL THE LAST ENGRAVING
PA KI

CRUSH
A LAZYBONES LIKE YOU IS ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER YOU'LL CUT YOUR FINGERS
ROOAAR

BA
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

DON
SFX: ROAR

PLEASE SAVE HIRAIZUMI!!
TRUE FORM OF MOUNT KINKEI, MYOJO BODHISATTVA,
WHOOSH

BAKUN
DO
IT FAILED...?

SOU!

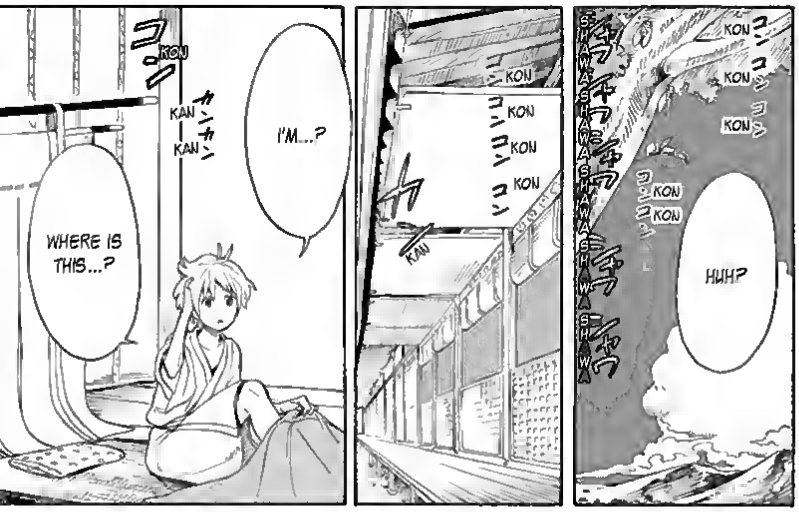
SFX ROOOAAAR
FIFTH YEAR OF THE BUNJI ERA (1189)
AUGUST
THE GOLDEN CAPITAL OF MUTSU PROVINCE, HIRAIZUMI
DAY OF DESTRUCTION

I WON'T DIE..
MY LIFE HAD PRACTICALLY JUST STARTED.
SFX: III .. III
I STILL...
NOT YET.

SFX. III...

NOTIFY UNKEI IN KAMAKURA!
THIS IS...
THE STATUE...
AND A HUMAN'S BODY HAVE...
CALL A MESSENGER, QUICKLY!
カン カン カン
KAN KAN KAN
SEND WORD TO UNKEI!
カン カン カン カン カン カン カン
SFX KAN KAN KAN KAN KAN KAN

KA
TA
N


KON
KAN
I'M...?
WHERE IS THIS...?
KON
KAN
HUH?

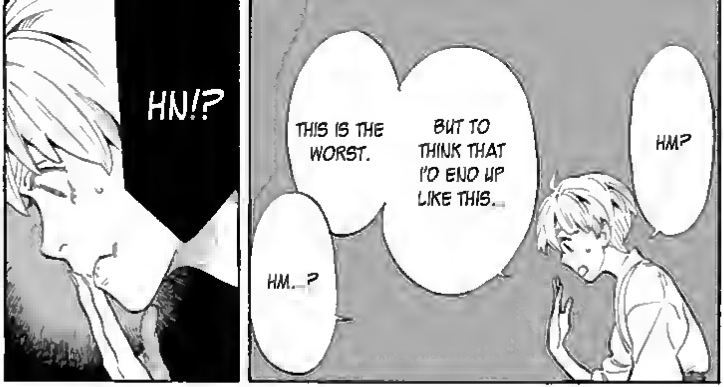
HUH?
I'M...?

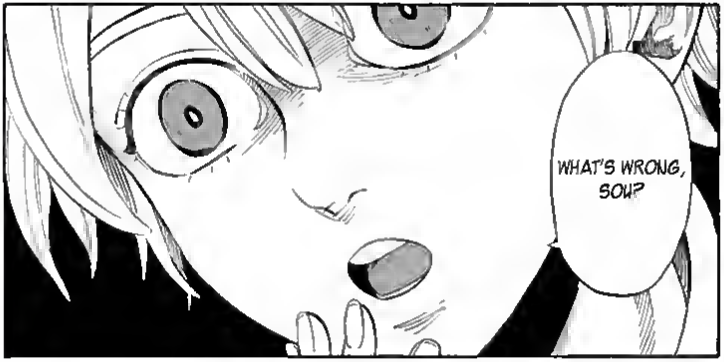
YOU WERE CALLED "SOW" BY YOUR PEERS.

I...?

SHAKA SHAKA SHAWA
IT IS AUGUST IN THE FIFTH YEAR OF THE BUNJI ERA.
THE KAMAKURA GOVERNMENT IS UNDER MINAMOTO YORITOMO'S REGIME.
THE ERA OF SAMURAI.
DOES REALIZING THAT NOT BOTHER YOU?

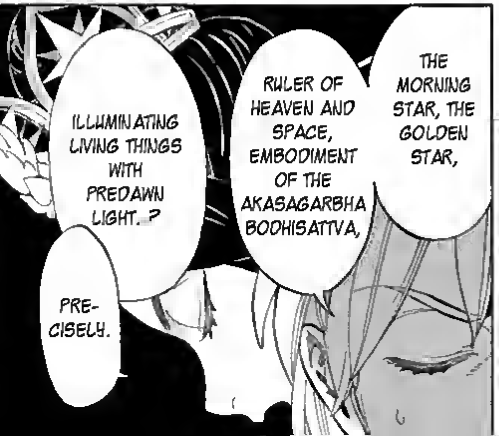
IT APPEARS THAT THIS IS NOT HIRAIZUMI.
.....


HN!?
THIS IS THE WORST.
BUT TO THINK THAT I'D END UP LIKE THIS...
HM...?
HM?


WHAT'S WRONG, SOU?

SFX SHRIEK
ギぃあああぁぁ
WHAT, AREN'T I ALLOWED TO SPEAK?
SCARY! SCARY! SCARY!!
NO WAY, WHOSE VOICE IS THAT!? THIS IS SCARY!!
IT'S TALKING! WHAT IS THIS?
MY MOUTH! IT MOVED ON ITS OWN!
HUH!? HUH!?

*WORLD WHERE BUDDHAS GATHER, CENTERED AROUND VAIROCANA


ILLUMINATING LIVING THINGS WITH PREDAWN LIGHT...?
PRE-CISELY.
RULER OF HEAVEN AND SPACE, EMBODIMENT OF THE AKASAGARBHA BODHISATTVA,
THE MORNING STAR, THE GOLDEN STAR,
PRE-CISELY.
MYOJO BODHI-SATTVA?

TN: MYOJO (明星) TRANSLATES TO VENUS, THE MORNING STAR. ALSO CALLED THE EVENING STAR IN OTHER CULTURES

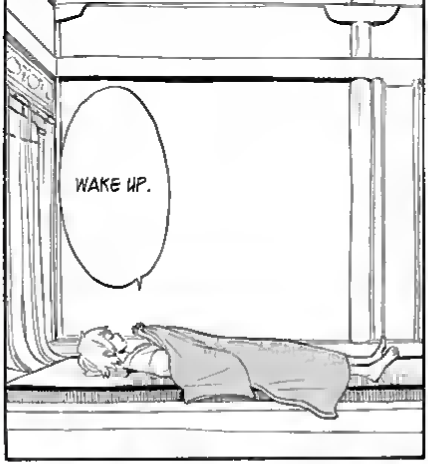
AHH, HOW LUCKY OF ME!
SHAKE
I'VE BEEN POSS-ESSED!
DON'T GROUP THE BUDDHA WITH SPIRITS AND GHOSTS, YOU FOOL!
NO~
AND IT WAS A MINOR ONE LIKE MYOJO THAT CAME.
I'D RATHER HAVE SOMETHING COOL LIKE A WISDOM KING OR HAYAGRIVA.
SORRY FOR BEING PLAIN.

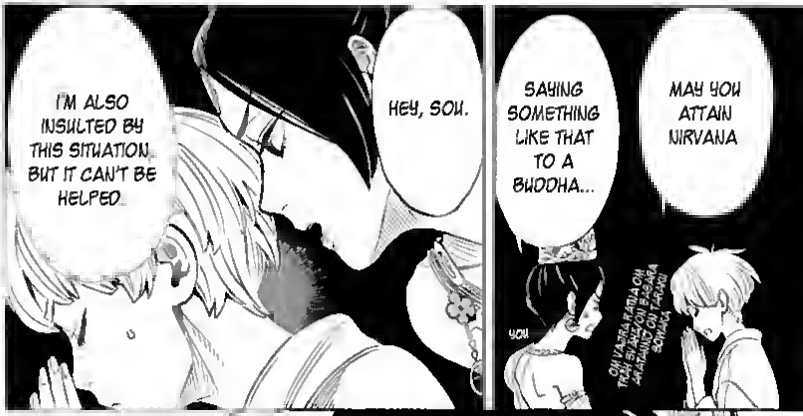
I'M ALSO SURPRISED THAT I CAN'T DO IT.

ANYWAY, WHY WERE YOU USING MY MOUTH TO SPEAK WITH IN THE FIRST PLACE?
DON'T YOU HAVE, LIKE... TELEPATHY OR SOMETHING?

I WAS CALLED BY YOU AND CAME DOWN TO THIS LAND.
AND, WORKING TOGETHER, WE DEFEATED MIZUCHI.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING... LIKE, AT ALL.
I WAS GREATLY INJURED
SOU?
YOU CALLED ME TO THE WORLD OF HUMANS.
AND NO LONGER HAVE THE POWER TO RETURN TO THE WOMB REALM.
YOU HAVE A RENOWNED NAME AND POWER. WEREN'T YOU A PRIEST AND A SCULPTOR?
I CAN'T REMEMBER ANY OF IT.
SOU...
MYOJO BODHISATTVA ..
HIRAIZUMI..
MIZUCHI...


WAKE UP.
WHO AM I? WHAT'S GOING ON?
NO NO NO NO !!!
SFX: PANIC


I'M ALSO INSULTED BY THIS SITUATION, BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
HEY, SOU.
SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO A BUDDHA...
MAY YOU ATTAIN NIRVANA
YOU
OM VAJRA KAYA OM TRAH SVAHA OM VAJRA ARAMKU OM TARABU SONAHA

IF YOU WERE TO DRIVE ME OUT RIGHT NOW, I DON'T THINK YOU WOULD ACHIEVE A DESIRABLE RESULT.
I AM THE LEFT HALF OF YOUR BODY.

"LEFT HALF?"
SFX: BA
... IT'S WOOD?
.....

WE EACH LOST HALF OF OUR BODIES.
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME FATE FUSED US INTO ONE.
KOOO

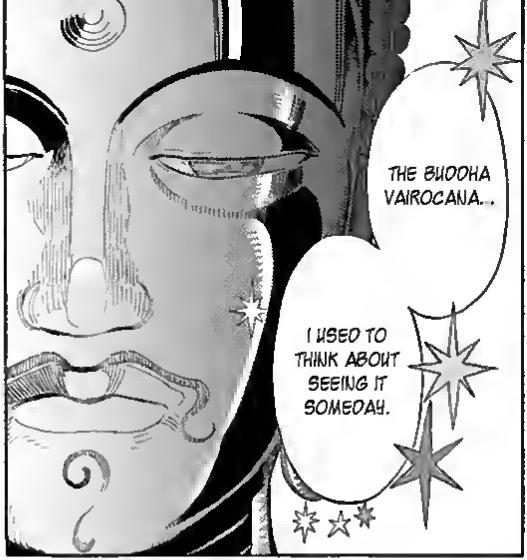
KOOO
FA-

LIGHT RUNNING
FAARATHEER!
HEY, WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE IS THIS?
I'M NYOI,
AND THIS IS TODAIJI, THE GREAT EASTERN TEMPLE!
AH!
EAT THIS!

FAAATHER!
KLEEING
どたばた
THAT PERSON WOKE UP!
HEY,
SOW!
HHOOOO!
ほおー!!
ヒョコ
NOPE
*THE SOUTHERN CAPITAL / NARA
WE'RE IN NANTO!*

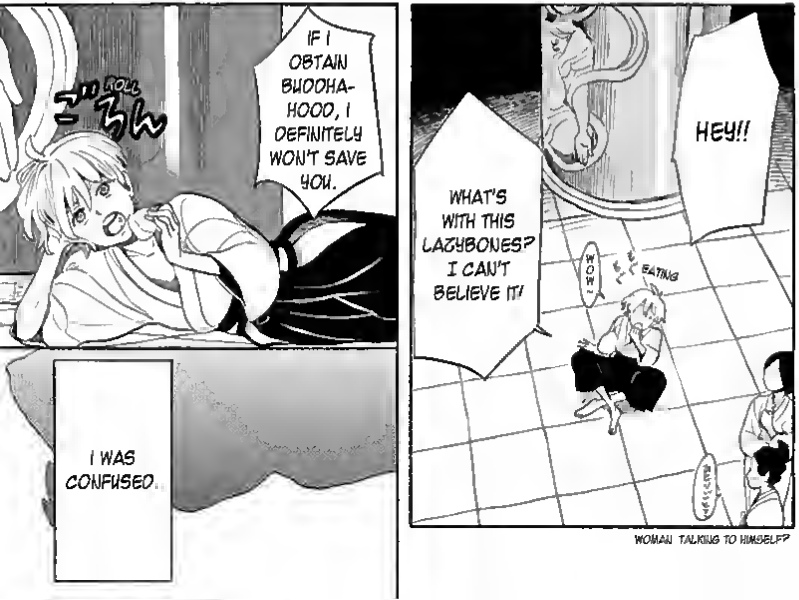
TN: HE'S PROBABLY REFERRING TO HOW HEIJO WAS THE CAPITAL OF JAPAN DURING THE NARA PERIOD

す…
SU
すす…
SU SU



*BUDDHA AND BODHISATTVA'S ORIGINAL FORM

THE STATUE'S PROFILE REALLY IS AMAZING~
REBTLE
HEY!
AS EXPECTED,
WELL, IT'S FINE.
HEY.
GRUNT


IF I OBTAIN BUDDHA-HOOD, I DEFINITELY WON'T SAVE YOU.
ROLL
I WAS CONFUSED.
HEY!!
WHAT'S WITH THIS LAZYBONES? I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
WOW
EATING
WOMAN TALKING TO HIMSELF?

EVERYTHING WAS LIKE AN UNGRASP-ABLE MIST,
BUT...
IDLY EATING A RICE BALL IN FRONT OF THE OVERWHELMING "GREAT BUDDHA" STATUE WAS EXCEPTIONAL.
THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT, "THIS IS FINE FOR NOW."
KAN KON KON
KON
KAN
KON

THE LIVELY SOUND OF A CHISEL. THE SCULPTOR OF THE GREAT BUDDHA COMES TO MEET YOU!
HAVE YOU FINALLY AWOKEN, "HALF-BUDDHA" OF HIRAIZUMI?
CONTINUES NEXT TIME
1/16

TRANSLATOR'S NOTES

THERE'S A LOT OF BODHISATTVAS. REALLY A LOT OF THEM, BUT I STILL TRIED TO FIND THIS ONE TO FIGURE OUT IF KAMATANI MADE ONE UP. THERE'S A MYOJO BOSATSU AT KOUNJI, BUT HE DOESN'T REALLY LOOK LIKE OURS. (HTTP://NARABUNGEI.BLOG4.FC2.COM/BLOG-ENTRY-180.HTML) BUT THEN THERE'S ALSO THE MYOJO KANNON BOSATSU, WHO LOOKS A BIT FAMILIAR. (HTTP://WWW.AC.AUONE-NET.JP/~HINOAYA/MYOJOSRO.HTML) AND AN ENGLISH PAGE. (HTTP://WWW.BUTUZOU.CO.JP/ENGLISH/MYOJOKANNON.HTML) SO I DON'T KNOW. MYOJO LOOKED LIKE A MAGICAL GIRL IN HIS FIRST APPEARANCE. HE HAD THE STAFF AND SPARKLES AND ALL.

BUT THE BIT ABOUT HIM BEING THE EMBODIMENT OF AKASAGARBHA. AKASAGARBHA IS KNOWN AS KOKUZO IN JAPAN AND ASSOCIATED WITH VENUS (MYOJO). THE THING SOU RECITES ON PAGE 30 IS A SHINGON MANTRA FOR KOKUZO. INTERESTING NOTE: "IN SCULPTURE, KOKUZO'S ROLE AS BESTOWER OF WISHES MEANS THAT KOKUZO IS SHOWN FREQUENTLY HOLDING THE WISH-GRANTING JEWEL." (HTTP://WWW.ONMARKPRODUCTIONS.COM/HTML/KOKUZO.SHTML) IN MYOJO'S APPEARANCE IN SOU'S MIND AND THE PROMO ART, YOU CAN SEE HIM HOLDING ON TO A JEWEL-LIKE THING, SO THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT IT IS.

ALSO, I'M NOT AN EXPERT IN BUDDHISM. NOT. AT. ALL. I KNOW THE BASIC IDEAS, BUT ALL OF THESE TITLES AND BODHISATTVAS, YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE KAMATANI'S WORD FOR IT. DURING THE KAMAKURA PERIOD, PURE LAND BUDDHISM WAS PRETTY BIG, ALONG WITH A FEW OTHERS. IT'S THE ONE WHERE RECITING THE AMIDA BUDDHA'S NAME ENOUGH TIMES WOULD ALLOW GRANT REBIRTH IN THE PURE LAND.

MINAMOTO NO YORITOMO, THE TALL HAT GUY IN THE BEGINNING, WAS ON THE WINNING SIDE OF THE GENPEI WAR BETWEEN THE TAIRA (HEIKE) CLAN AND THE MINAMOTO (GENJI) CLAN. THE WAR ENDED IN 1185 AND YORITOMO BECAME THE SHOGUN IN 1192. THE NORTHERN FUJIWARAS MENTIONED BY THE KID RULED HIRAIZUMI FOR SOME TIME UNTIL YORITOMO CAME THROUGH. BEFORE, THE FUJIWARA CLAN WAS POLITICALLY POWERFUL IN THE HEIAN PERIOD. THE KAMAKURA PERIOD HAD SAMURAI AND STUFF LIKE THAT. YORITOMO'S GOVERNMENT AS A MILITARY GOVERNMENT. LOOK UP 'KAMAKURA SHOGUNATE'.

SOU IS WAY TOO EASYGOING (BUT STILL ADORABLE). I WAS CONFUSED WHEN HE WAS FIRST CALLED LAZY, BUT THEN THE REST OF THE CHAPTER HAPPENED. HE LOOKED SO COOL AT FIRST, TOO. YOU'D THINK HE'D BE A LITTLE MORE POLITE TO MYOJO, CONSIDERING THEY'RE HALF AND HALF NOW. 'COSPLAYING KID/BRAT' WWWW

I'VE BEEN READING SHOUNEN NOTE, SO PAGE 16 CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD. I DON'T REMEMBER PEOPLE GETTING CUT IN HALF IN NABARI. KAMATANI'S STEPPING IT UP! LET'S HOPE THE NEXT CHAPTER IS AS EXCITING AND BLOODY AS THE FIRST!

THANK YOU FOR READING UNTIL THE END!
-SHOKUJIS

TYPESETTER'S NOTES

SO MANY LONG WORDS, SO MANY NARROW BUBBLES ,,
IT'S BEEN VERY STRANGE TO SWITCH BETWEEN THIS AND *SHOUNEN NOTE*, YUKKI KAMATANI'S OTHER PROJECT (AND THEREFORE BLU'S OTHER PROJECT). ONE DAY, SINGING, THE NEXT DAY, BUDDHISM?

I'M VERY HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO SHARE BUSSHIND WITH YOU. AN INTERESTING (AND FOR ME, INFURIATING) NOTE ABOUT THE TITLE: AS IT'S WRITTEN IN SYLLABIC HIRAGANA RATHER THAN LOGOGRAPHIC KANJI, WE CAN'T KNOW FOR SURE WHAT "BUSSHIN" MEANS. I WENT WITH "THE SCULPTOR'S BUDDHAKAYA" BECAUSE IT IS THEMATIC (BUDDHAKAYA MEANS "BUDDHA BODY" IN SANSKRIT), BUT IT COULD ALSO MEAN "BUDDHA'S HEART," "BUDDHA'S MERCY," OR "MATTER AND MIND."

THANK YOU FOR READING, AND DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT YUKKI KAMATANI BY BUYING OFFICIAL RELEASES OF *NABARI NO OU* (IN ENGLISH OR JAPANESE) AND *SHOUNEN NOTE* (IN JAPANESE).

PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR ANY NON-TRANSLATION RELATED INQUIRIES!

UNTIL NEXT TIME!
-CHARMINGSPROUT

QC'S NOTES

I'M VERY EXCITED FOR KAMATANI'S NEW SERIES. HER ART HERE IS SO GORGEOUS! THIS SORT OF STORY IS A BIT MORE DIFFICULT FOR INTERNATIONAL READERS, BUT I HOPE WE'VE MADE IT AS UNDERSTANDABLE AS POSSIBLE. AFTER READING IT SO CLOSELY AND SO MANY TIMES, I THINK I FINALLY GRASP THIS CHAPTER AS FULLY AS I'LL EVER BE ABLE TO. MAN, IT'S LIKE TRYING TO READ GATE 7 .. I'M NOT INCLINED TOWARD ANY SORT OF HISTORICAL FICTION, SO STUFF LIKE THIS THAT'S REALLY STEEPED IN THE HISTORY/CULTURE IS TOUGH FOR ME

IF YOU CAN, PLEASE SUPPORT KAMATANI AND THE REST OF THE INDUSTRY BY BUYING SOME OFFICIAL MANGA RELEASES!

-NYANJAIH

BLY SCANLATIONS

RAWS: HALLILAUL@TUMBLR
TRANSLATION: SHOKUJIS@TUMBLR
CLEANING/TYPESETTING: CHARMINGSPROUT@TUMBLR
QC: NYANJA14@TUMBLR